



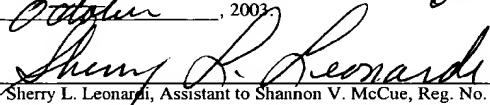
AP/3679

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In the application of) Examiner: ERIC K. NICHOLSON
)
THOMAS L. WELSH,) Group Art Unit 3679
GLENN E. BURKET and)
JOSEPH E. DICK)
)
Serial No. 09/975,917)
)
Filed: October 10, 2001)
)
For: CONNECTOR AND)
METHOD OF)
MANUFACTURE)
) Attorney Docket No. FLN.P.US0002

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I HEREBY CERTIFY that this correspondence was deposited with the U.S. Postal Service as first class mail, postage prepaid, in an envelope addressed to Mail Stop NON-FEE Amendment, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, this 6th day of October, 2003.


Sherry L. Leonardi, Assistant to Shannon V. McCue, Reg. No. 42,859

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Group 3600

Enclosed are the following documents:

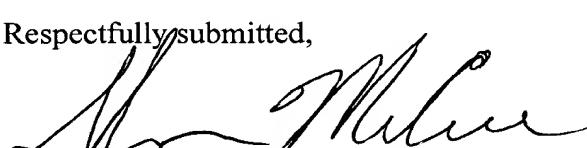
Amendment (w/attached Certificate of Mailing)

Return Receipt Postcard

AUTHORIZATION TO CHARGE DEPOSIT ACCOUNT

The Director is hereby authorized to charge payment of any fees associated with this communication or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 18-0987.

Respectfully submitted,


Shannon V. McCue, Reg. No. 42,859
Phillip L. Kenner, Reg. No. 22,353
Renner, Kenner, Greive, Bobak, Taylor & Weber
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Akron, Ohio 44308
(330) 376-1242

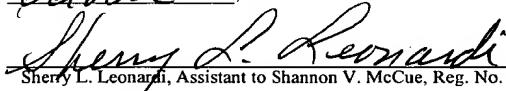
October 6, 2003



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In the application of) Examiner: ERIC K. NICHOLSON
THOMAS L. WELSH,)
GLENN E. BURKET and) Group Art Unit 3679
JOSEPH E. DICK)
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Sherry L. Leonardi, Assistant to Shannon V. McCue, Reg. No. 42,859

RESPONSE and AMENDMENT B PURSUANT TO 37 C.F.R. §1.116

COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

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Sir:

In response to the Official Action dated September 8, 2003, the Applicants, through their attorney, respond as follows:

AMENDMENTS to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper.

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS begin on page 6 of this paper.

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